

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yoshio KITAMURA

Serial No. Continuation of Serial No. 08/932,427 Group Art Unit: 2188

Confirmation No.

Filed: July 16, 2003

Examiner: Portka, G.

For: RAID APPARATUS AND ACCESS CONTROL METHOD THEREFOR WHICH
BALANCES THE USE OF THE DISK UNITS (AS AMENDED)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please DELETE the Abstract in its entirety and substitute the attached new Abstract.